

FARMERS FRIEND ON RESERVE BOARD

H. A. Moehlenpah New Appointee,
Long Interested in
Agriculture.

REPRESENTS COUNTRY BANKS

Has Been Active in Encouraging Rural
Development and Introduction of
Better Farming Methods—
Self-Made Man.

Appointment of H. A. Moehlenpah of Wisconsin to the federal reserve board establishes a link in the banking system of America which connects the great commercial and agricultural interests and serves to create a sympathetic understanding between the various factors in the financial organization of the nation.

For Mr. Moehlenpah was essentially a country banker—a big one and an influential one, to be sure—but nevertheless a farmer's banker and a banker representing and understanding the needs and problems of agriculture and of the small bank. He takes to the federal reserve board, which of course, stands at the head of our financial system, a profound knowledge of what is required in the way of financing for the agricultural interests of this country. Since 1893 he has been connected, first as cashier and later as president, with the Citizens Bank of Clinton, Wis., an institution of \$50,000 capital. Within the last ten years he has organized and operated two large institutions for the handling of farm



H. A. Moehlenpah.

loans. The first of these is known as the Wisconsin Mortgage and Securities company and has a capital stock of \$200,000. It was organized in 1914 and during the first five years of its existence it made loans to sixteen hundred farmers aggregating five millions of dollars. The second of these institutions is known as the Bankers' Joint Stock Land Bank of Milwaukee, organized in 1918 under the federal farm loan act, with a capital of \$250,000. This institution now has about seven hundred loans in effect totalling \$8,000,000.

Understands Farmer's Needs.

While these facts show the financial relation of Mr. Moehlenpah to agricultural interests, they barely hint at his great activity in behalf of the farmers for he was active in Wisconsin and at Washington, D. C., in behalf of the legislation which resulted in the passage of the farm loan act. His last work in Wisconsin before going to Washington was that of getting under way the organization of a cattle loan company for the purpose of financing the movement of pure bred stock from southern Wisconsin to northern districts of that state. He had been active for many years encouraging better farming and has been identified with many movements like grain contests, exhibitions in rural schools, formation of country development associations and educational excursions made for the purpose of introducing pure bred stock and pure bred seeds. Many times he has been chairman of the committee for such work in charge.

Knows Big Policies.

However, Mr. Moehlenpah is not merely a country banker. He is one who understands the larger aspects of finance and is able to think of financial problems in large units. He was a considerable factor in the discussions of the federal reserve act before it became a law and perhaps more than any single individual was responsible for the endorsement of this act by the American Bankers' association. When the federal reserve act was before congress, the American Bankers' association called a conference in Chicago of the bankers of the country for the purpose of securing suggestions for amendments it was felt would be needed.

Represents Country Bankers.

As a result of that conference, Mr. Moehlenpah was appointed a member of a committee of fifteen representing the bankers of the United States. He represented the country banks, all the other members being large city bankers: A. P. Hepburn, New York; W. A. Maddox, Atlanta, Ga.; J. B. Forgan and G. M. Reynolds, Chicago, and others.

WORLD'S BIGGEST NITRATE PLANT

Mammoth Explosives Factory
in Alabama Built in
Eight Months.

ALL SPEED RECORDS BROKEN

Could Supply 13 Per Cent of
Allies' Needs Had War
Continued.

By GARRET SMITH.

Lifting the ban of war secrecy has just now brought to light for the first time one of the most stupendous feats of construction in history—the planning and building in less than one year of the largest ammonium nitrate plant in the world and of a city around it for the housing of its 25,000 workmen and their families. At the same time it revealed one of the chief reasons why Germany suddenly surrendered a year ago. The German high command knew that the United States was ready at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, to manufacture 13 per cent of all the high explosives needed by all the Allied armies on all fronts in the expected drive of the following spring.

The first person on construction work reached Muscle Shoals on November 26, 1917. On February 16, 1918, ground was first broken for a permanent plant building. On October 26, 1918, eight months and eight days later, the manufacturing plant had begun the production of ammonium nitrate.

When America entered the world war in April, 1917, she had no means of producing the enormous quantities of high explosives necessary to provide the huge army she planned to raise. The very fact that our industries were already worked to capacity providing ammunition to the allies seemed to make further production for our own use impossible.

Fertilizer Process Turned to War Use.

At this juncture the Ordnance Department turned to cyanamid, a commercial fertilizer, which had for some years been produced successfully at Niagara Falls, by a process the American rights of which were obtained in 1907 from Germany by Frank Sherman Washburn, head of the American Cyanamid Company.

By this process cyanamid was produced by extracting nitrogen from the air and combining it with calcium obtained from limestone rock and carbon from coke. By putting cyanamid through three more processes both ammonia and nitric acid can be extracted from it and combined into the explosive, ammonium nitrate. Mr. Washburn was invited to present plans and estimates for the construction in the shortest possible time of an ammonium nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and a contract between his company and the United States was entered into under date of November 16, 1917.

To have general supervision of planning and carrying out the work an organization known as the Air Nitrates Corporation was formed to act as agent of the Ordnance Department. This corporation provided the general designs, supervised all the work and operated the camp, the town and the plant. It also installed all equipment in the chemical plant. The various other sections of the work were sublet to organizations that were specialists in the directions in which they were asked to help.

New City Built From the Ground.

It was necessary to build a new town to house the laborers. For this job Westinghouse Church Kerr Company was called in as contractor. This company also built the buildings of the chemical plant. Within four months 17,000 workmen had been assembled and a city capable of accommodating 27,000 inhabitants had been completed, with lodging, restaurants, stores, offices, police headquarters, schools, fire departments, hospitals, motion picture theaters, electric light and sewerage systems.

The construction of the plant proper was begun on February 16, 1918. Just eight months and eight days later the big plant began a steady output of ammonium nitrate. The plant contains 18 permanent buildings, with a roof area of over 26 acres.

To provide the electric current it was necessary to build a steam power electric plant, for it would have taken three years or more to complete the dam and hydro-electric station now under way. This plant, built by the J. G. White Corporation, is one of the largest steam plants for developing electrical energy in the world.

The output of the plant is 800 tons of ammonium nitrate a day, and this can be produced at Muscle Shoals at a cost less than one-half the standard fixed price paid by the Government for ammonium nitrate produced by other methods and one-fourth to one-fifth the cost of other high explosives of equal strength. Compared with the older process of making ammonium nitrate, the savings made by this plant would have paid the \$80,000,000 cost of the entire plant in about one and one-half years of operation.

As a military weapon it is one of the vilest and most economical expenditures that the Ordnance Department has undertaken. As an agent in stopping the war and as a future protection to the country its value is incalculable.

PUBLIC SALE

HAVING RENTED MY FARM FOR A TERM OF YEARS, I WILL SELL ALL MY PERSONAL PROPERTY TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, WITHOUT RESERVE, ON MY FARM, 4 MILE SOUTH OF GOODWIN, 5 MILES EAST OF WATERBURY, 5 MILES WEST OF JACKSON AND 5 MILES NORTHWEST OF HUBBARD, NEB., ON

Thursday, Feb. 19, '20

SALE COMMENCES AT 11 O'CLOCK.

FREE LUNCH SERVED AT NOON

112 head of Grade Hereford Cattle

7 Choice Milch Cows. 12 2-year-old Steers. 18 2-year-old Heifers. 19 Cows. 10 1-year-old Steers. 13 1-year-old Heifers. 13 Heifer Calves. 19 Steer Calves. 1 HEREFORD BULL.

11 head of Horses

1 Span, Mare and Gelding, black and gray, 8 years old, weight 2700. 1 bay Horse, 9 years old, weight 1200. 1 good old bay Team, weight 2400. 1 span of grays, 10 years old, weight 2500. 1 saddle pony. 1 Colt coming 3 years old. 2 Suckling Colts.

21 Head of Choice Brood Sows. 1 Duroc Jersey Boar

Chickens 28 Hay 28 Grain and Harness

6 Dozen Chickens. 50 Tons of Wild Hay. 80 Bushels of Good Seed Wheat. 200 Bushels of Good Oats. 3 Sets of Harness.

Farm Machinery, Etc.

3 Lumber Wagons, two with box, one with rack. Bob-sled. new Deering Binder. Hay Stacker. 2 Sweeps. New Seeder. Two 2-row Machines. 2 good Discs. 1 Deering Corn Binder. New Century Cultivator. Walking Cultivator. Disc Cultivator. 2-row Stalk Cutter. New Tongueless Cultivator. 2 Mowers. New Corn Planter. Lister. 4-section Flexible Drag. 3-section Steel Drag. 2 Walking Plows. Dipping Tank. 2 Hog Oilers. Oil Barrel. 2 Cattle Bunks. 2 Hog Bunks. Grindstone. Chicken Feed Grinder.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS: Organ. Couch. 2 Rocking Chairs. 6 Kitchen Chairs. 2 Iron Beds. 1 Oak Bed. Rug, 10x12. Cream Separator. Lard Press. Range. Center Table. Wash Stand. Many Other Articles not Mentioned in List.

TERMS OF SALE: 10 Months Time will be given, at 8 per cent interest. All sums under \$10, Cash.

T. F. Crosby, Owner

COL. E. F. RASMUSSEN, Auctioneer.

RAY F. QUINN, Clerk.

Lutheran Church Notes By Rev C. R. Lowe.

The young people will meet at the home of Mr. John Boller next Saturday night for their choir practice.

The holy communion will be celebrated next Sunday if nothing prevents. Remember that the weather conditions will not be a preventative cause unless it is very bad. We have found that a postponed service is never what it would have been had it been held at the time announced.

We would like to have a large presence on the part of the congregation because of the service on the one hand, and again because we expect to use the Common Service, and we want you to hear it and to enjoy it. This service is one of worship if we use it so. It can be made simply a program to be gone through with and no worship if we use it so. Let us praise God by the use of it. It is one of the fundamentals in our church that the congregation shall have a part in the exercises of worship in the congregation, rather than just to be present and hear, and to this end is the service. It is scriptural and right and the object of it is proper, so it is good.

There is some sickness in the congregation, and it is making itself felt in the services. We are to be

thankful that the flu is not so bad among us as it is some places where they have shut down the schools and the churches. We sincerely hope that it will not come to this in our own community.

It is our hope to get the minutes of Synod out by the end of next week. The copy has been in the hands of the printer since a few days after we came home from Synod, but the coal shortage has hit us in the first place and delayed the work, and now it has been a shortage of labor in the typing. The pastor spent last Monday in the printshop getting the work in shape along with the publisher, that it may go to the press at the earliest hour. The churches are waiting with more or less patience for the copies, and the officers of the general church are after copies. The whole work is held up in part because of the delay for which no one in particular is responsible since no one could govern the causes of delay.

It should be the way with Christian people that they live in the sight of God rather than in the sight of men. There are a lot of things which a Christian ought to be which non-Christians do not see the need of. But therein is the difference between them. Christians are to be separate from the world, and that

means different. That was clear to you when you made your profession, and that is what you intended to do when you made it. Now the call is to you to remember the thing you intended to do. I know some non-Christians think the way of the Christian is strict, and sometimes unnecessary and they do not see the use of it all, but it is not so with the godly. The way is straight and narrow, and the Word says there are few who find it. Every Christian ought to be anxious about their entering. Jesus exhorts, "Strive to enter into it." The devout disciple is not burdened with the weight of the load, and the leading of the Holy Spirit, but he enjoys it, not only for the hope of eternal life, but because it is good for the present time. Are there self-denials? So are there to those who know not God. Are there difficulties in the way? So are there to those who live in sin. Are there foregoings of pleasures of the world? The pious do not find pleasure in the ways of the world, and those who walk in the ways of the world are not able to enjoy every thing the world presents either. We verily believe the Christian enjoys himself more than the non-Christian, and has more real pleasure in the world about him. Do not think all the ordinary pleasures of men are denied to the Christian, for they are

not. Only the ones which tend to evil and are evil. There is enough joy left among men for the Christian to pursue, and a lot of good things among men for the Christian that he need not worry about having a life of great pleasure, and in addition to that there is the acceptance with God which is a thing of great price. We will do well to pursue it.

Testing Seed Corn

It has come to be regarded as good practice among farmers to verify the germinative powers of their seed corn several months before planting time. This enables them to be deliberate in selecting other seed in case what they had selected proves unsound. The Nebraska Experiment Station heartily endorses this "rather be safe than sorry" procedure. A simple germination test of the bulk seed ears which have been selected will answer every purpose in determining the general quality of the seed. The methods of making seed tests are almost universally known to corn growers. If the germination proves unsatisfactory a closer elimination of unsound ears may be made or a satisfactory supply of other local productive seed located. One runs some risk of poor adaptation in securing seed from a distance whose local productivity has not been previously established.